

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Azerbaijdzhan SSR)	REPORT NO.	25X1
SUBJECT	Activities of the Azerbaijdzhan Democrat Party	DATE DISTR.	23 April 1954
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1. On instruction from the Central Committee of the Azerbaijdzhan Democrat Party, study classes have been organized for Iranians who have come to the USSR. The classes are under the supervision of Lt. Col. Mami Lankarani.¹ The courses in political affairs which began in May 1953 are taught by Panahian (fnu), Milani (fnu), and Gholam Yahya. The program is unknown.
2. The Party is now more active than formerly and is agitating against the present Iranian Government. It is not, however, allowed to stage any demonstrations.
3. The Party seems to be out of favor with Amu-Oglu, President of the Azerbaijdzhan SSR, and other Soviet officials.² Amu-Oglu has instructed the Democrats to cease open activities. Gholam Yahya's men have not been armed and he has been seeking the aid of Bala Hasanov and Petrosov (fnu), who have been sent by Amu-Oglu to inspect Iranian refugees.
4. Ninety men and women who are members of the Azerbaijdzhan Democrat Party have been sent to work in Cotton Mill No 278 in Ali Bayramly (N 39-55, E 48-56), Baku (sic). The cotton crop in the USSR in 1953 was excellent. The cotton for this mill came from Turkestan, Tavaleh (sic), Moghan, and Lenkoran. All Iranians working at the mill have been thoroughly interrogated by the Soviets and declared reliable.

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2.

Comment. It is unclear whether "President of the Azerbaydzhan SSR" refers to the office of Chairman of the Council of Ministers or of the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, neither of whom is Amu-Oglu.

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